

Case Studies for the Project on Cumulative Impacts and Precautionary Approaches

Work Group Meeting | October 30, 2008

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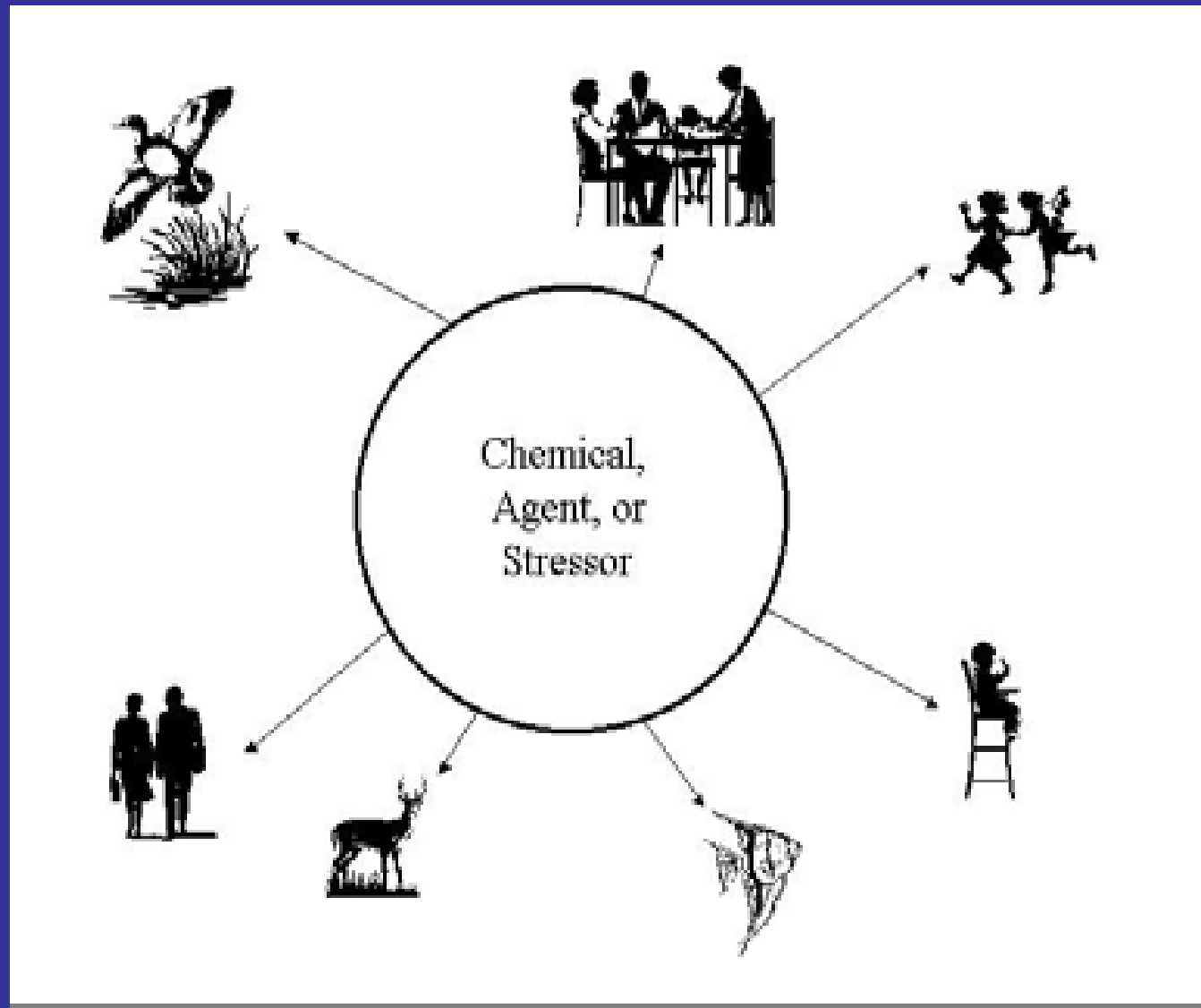
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Preview

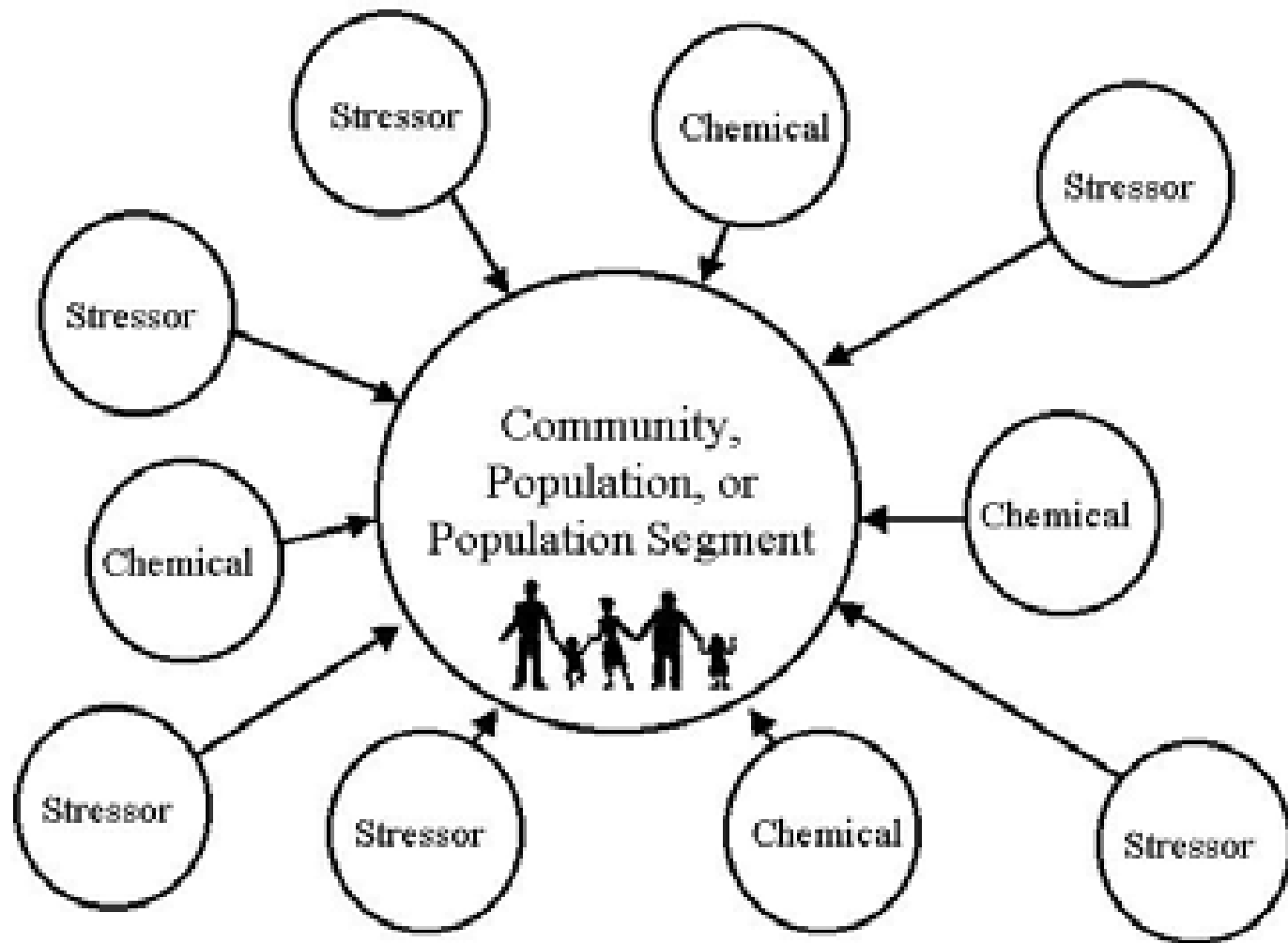
- Review of project approach
- Role of the case studies
- Case study elements
- Working list of case studies
- Synopses (3)
- What we are seeking

Review of project approach

Change focus: from “single agent or stressor”



Change focus: to what happens in communities



Working definitions

Cumulative impacts means exposures, public health or environmental effects from the combined emissions and discharges, in a geographic area, including environmental pollution from all sources Impacts will take into account sensitive populations and socio-economic factors, where applicable and to the extent data are available.

Working definitions

Precautionary approach means taking anticipatory action to protect public health or the environment if a reasonable threat of serious harm exists based upon the best available science and other relevant information, even if absolute and undisputed scientific evidence is not available to assess the exact nature and extent of risk.

Many environmental factors

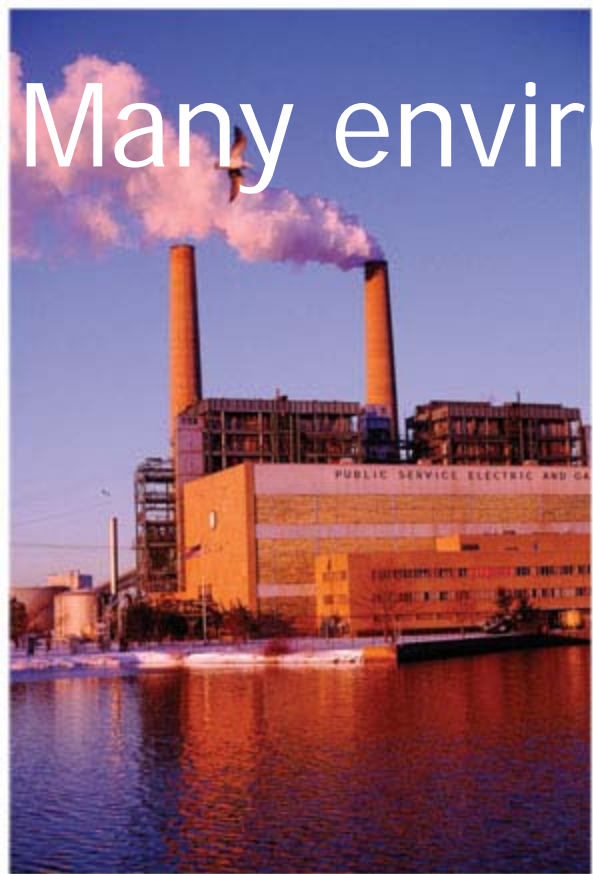
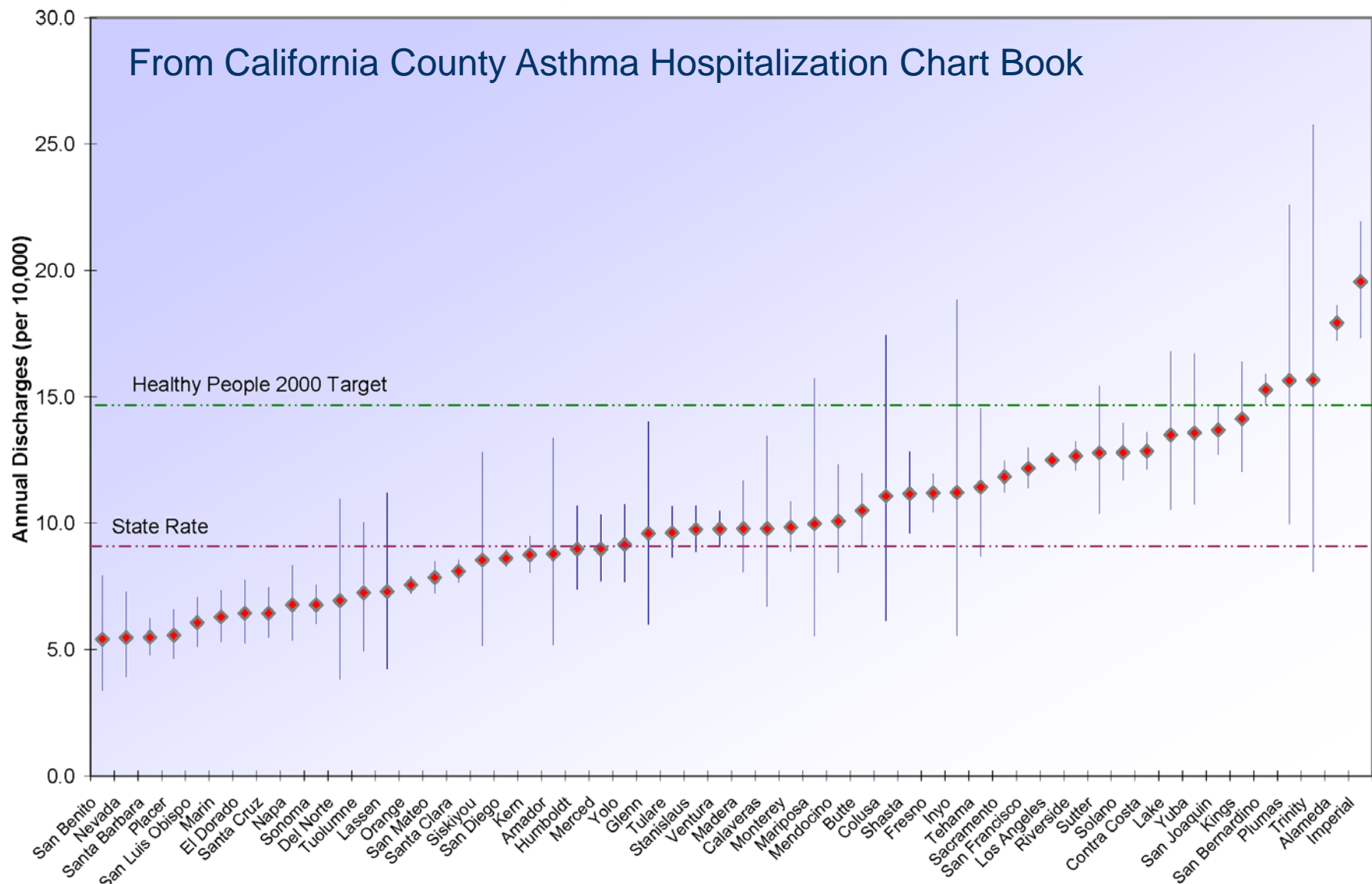
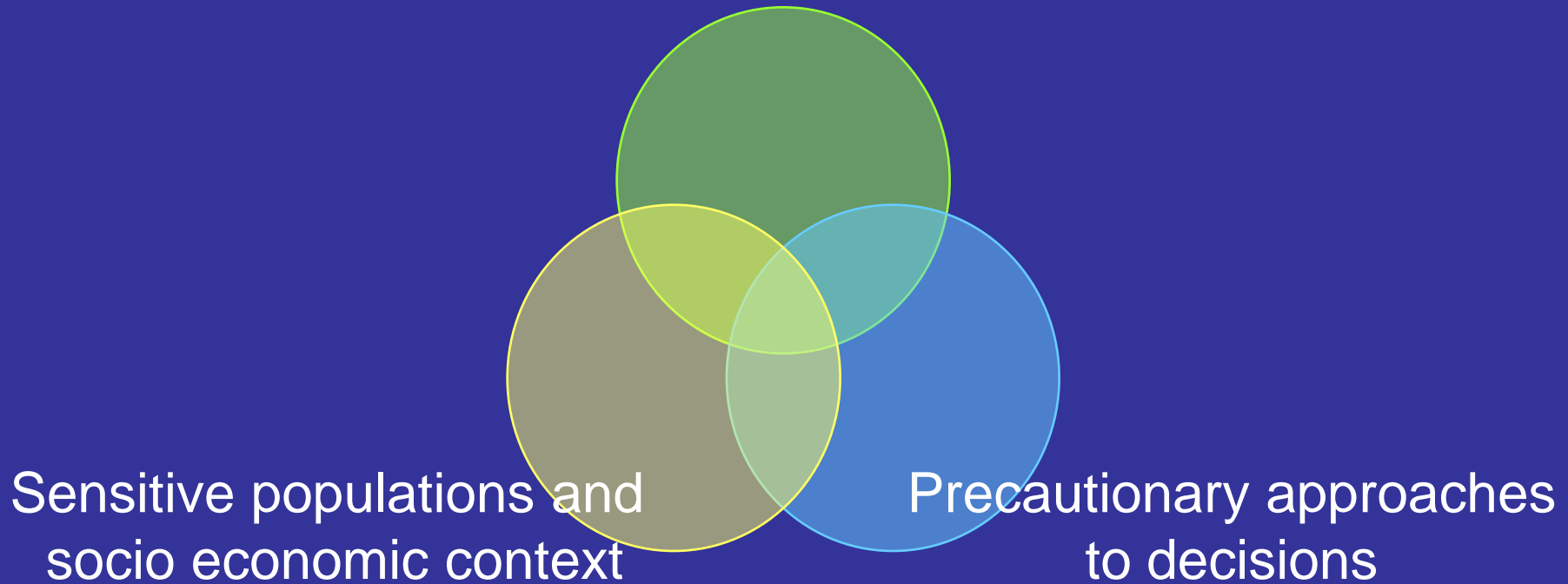


Figure 2: Age-Adjusted* Asthma Hospital Discharge Rates for All Races by County, 1998-2000, with 95% Confidence Intervals.



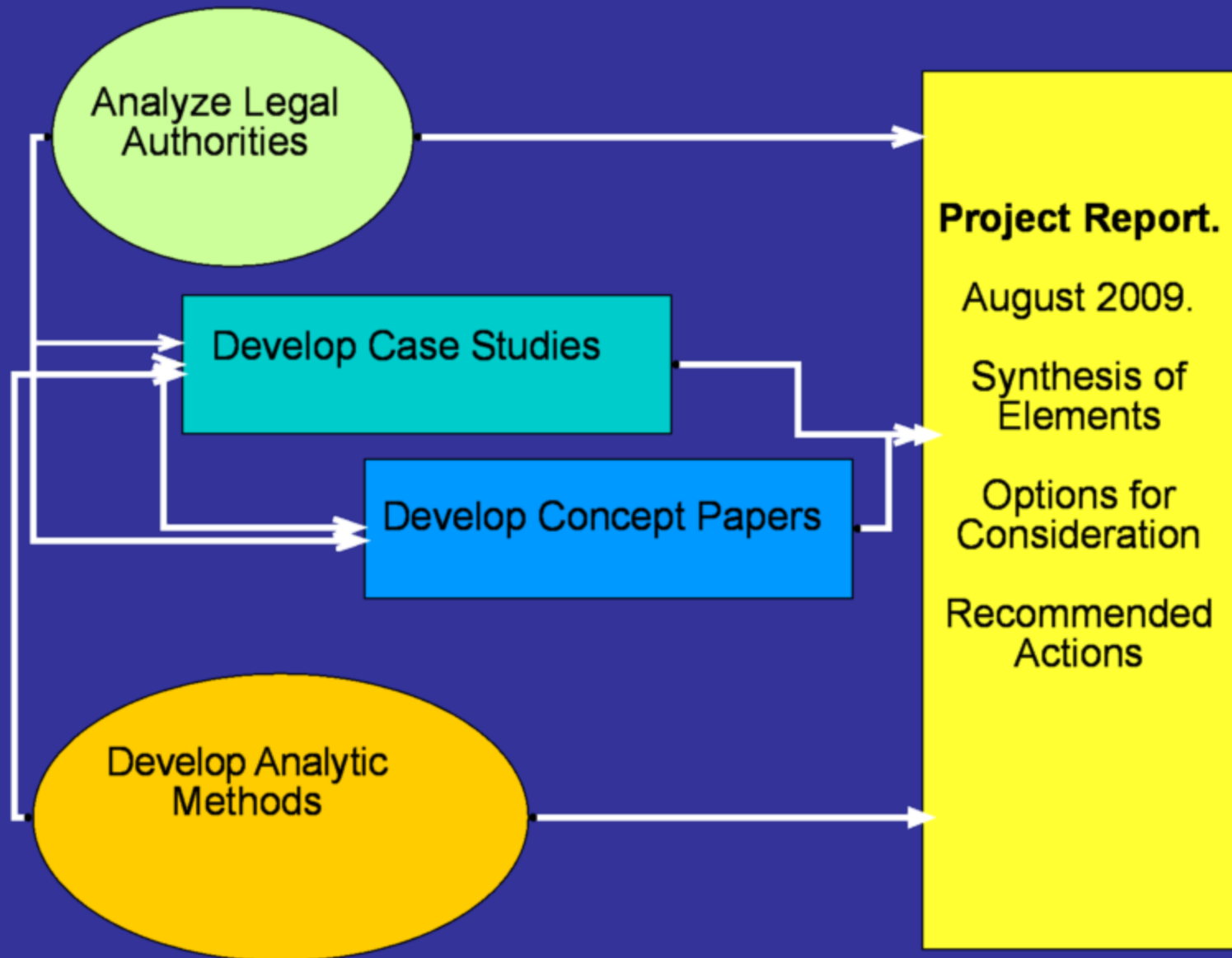
*Age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. population. Counties with less than 30 cases not shown.

Environmental context – Combined impacts



Project elements

1. Review of existing authorities (OEHHA for Cal EPA)
2. Case studies of decision contexts, topics, or places (UCB)
3. Concept papers (UCB and UCR)
4. Assessment methods development and review (UCB)
5. Consultation (all)
6. Organization of work group meetings (OEHHA)



Case Studies

- Elements of case studies
- Working list
- Synopses

2. Case studies

- Specific and tangible
- Drill down on issues for single case
- Raise issues to discuss more broadly → concept papers
- Seek advisors with direct knowledge

Agenda materials for CIPA Work Group Meeting

October 30, 2008 | Sacramento

Agenda Item: Case Studies

Copies of this document will be available at the meeting venue.

This packet includes:

- Elements of case studies (list of items to be included in all case studies). This was previously distributed in the pre-meeting materials and is not changed.
- Current working list of case studies. This was previously distributed in the pre-meeting materials and is not changed.
- Synopsis for “hot spots” case study. New.
- Synopsis for case study on persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic contaminants. New.
- Synopsis for case study on California Environmental Quality Act’s (CEQA’s) treatment of cumulative impacts for industrial facilities of potential environmental health concern. New.

This item was prepared by the academic partners at the University of California.

<http://oehha.ca.gov/ej/cipa102708.html>

What we are seeking

- Comments and suggestions about what to consider in case studies
- Specific suggestions for the ten case study elements
- Suggestions for advisors
- Discussion in next segment about what are important contexts, from your point of view
- Need all feedback by next meeting

Elements of case studies

1. Applicable legal context and policy standards (if any)
2. Responsible entities (government institutions)
3. Decision criteria
4. Relevant data and information
5. Relevant analyses of data and information

6. Characterization of data and analysis as it pertains to the decisions at hand
7. Allocation of any uncertainty – who bears the burden of uncertainty
8. Policy instruments – the way that a decision is implemented (permit, regulation, etc.)
9. Public process
10. Salience to audiences for this project –
 1. Why does it matter?
 2. How could it be done better?

Questions to consider

What are the "cumulative" issues to consider?

Have they been articulated and how?

What would we add?

Were they addressed?

Could they have been addressed under current authorities?

What additional data sources or methods may have been brought to bear?

Role of advisors

- For each case study
- Individuals directly knowledgeable about the particular case
- From any perspective
- Advise on factual elements
- Provide range of views on what could be done better (opinions)

Working List of Case Studies

- From last meeting -> case studies under way
- Case studies that we are scoping
- Other ideas for case studies

Case Studies Underway

- Assessment and Management of Emissions of Hazardous Air Pollutants under AB 2588 (Air toxics hot spots)
 - Synopsis to be discussed
- Assessment and Management of Persistent, Bioaccumulative Toxic Compounds in various Cal EPA authorities
 - Synopsis to be discussed

Under scoping

- Cumulative Impacts in Rural California Communities
- CEQA: Assessment of Cumulative Impacts for Development of Refineries
 - Synopsis to be discussed
- Multiple Issues in a Community: Wilmington
- Siting or expansion of waste disposal, sorting, or recycling facilities
- Climate Change: Mitigation and Adaptation in California Communities

Other suggested cases

- Freeway expansion or other traffic-related case study (I-210 Corridor)
- Freight movement (ports, rail yards, distribution centers, other transportation corridors)
- Residential development / other land uses in areas with high naturally-occurring asbestos
- Urban environment
- Children's health issue such as school siting or indoor air in schools
- Indoor environments
- Transportation related health impacts

Synopses

Please refer to written text from
today's agenda packet

Available on-line at:

<http://oehha.ca.gov/ej/cipa102708.html>

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Thanks!

This presentation and related
information will be posted at
<http://cipa.berkeley.edu>

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